

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Page 13, line 1, before claim 1, replace the single word heading CLAIMS with the following heading:

CLAIMS WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. (Currently Amended) A ~~product identification band, wrapping member or label which serve to encircle, at least partially encircle or wraps around a product packaging of a dish format container, and/or to identify the contents thereof said label comprises~~ comprising a backing layer carrying a release material on one face and a label layer carrying an adhesive on an opposite ~~one~~ face to secure the ~~label member~~ member to the product packaging ~~in due course, said opposite face being adapted to adhere~~ adhered to the backing layer and being separable therefrom for application to the product packaging, and a package or product in due course characterised in that said label is member being formed with at least one region of discontinuity in the label layer.

2. (Currently Amended) A member ~~label~~ according to claim 1 ~~wherein characterised in that~~ said region of discontinuity is in the form of one of a cut, slot, and perforations ~~or the like~~ which penetrate the label layer.

3. (Currently Amended) A member label according to claim 2 ~~wherein characterised in that~~ the region of discontinuity is in the form of a single shaped cut ~~or slot~~.
4. (Currently Amended) A member label according to claim 2 ~~wherein characterised in that~~ said region of discontinuity is in the form of at least two converging cuts ~~or slots~~.
5. (Currently Amended) A member label according to ~~claim 3 or~~ claim 4 ~~wherein a characterised in that the~~ region of the label layer located between the cuts forms a flap member movable separately ~~to~~ from the member label.
6. (Currently Amended) A member label according to claim 5 ~~wherein characterised in that~~ said flap member is provided with one of a fold, scored ~~or~~ and creased region which serves to impart a "hinge-like" action assisting movement of the flap member.
7. (Currently Amended) A member label according to claim ~~2~~ 4 ~~wherein characterised in that~~ said cuts are interrupted by portions of label material which act to connect the flap member to said label.

8. (Currently Amended) A pressure relief valve for a packaging container in the form of a ~~product identification band, wrapping member or label~~ which ~~serve to encircle,~~ at least partially ~~encircle or~~ wraps around a product packaging of a dish format container, ~~and/or to identify the contents thereof said label comprises~~ comprising a backing layer carrying a release material on one face and a label layer carrying an adhesive on an opposite ~~one~~ face to secure the ~~label~~ member to the product packaging ~~in due course,~~ said opposite face being adapted to adhere ~~adhered~~ to the backing layer and being separable therefrom for application to the product packaging, ~~and a package or product in due course characterised in that~~ said ~~label is~~ member being formed with at least one region of discontinuity in the label layer.

9. (Currently Amended) A pressure relief valve according to claim 8 wherein ~~characterised in that~~ said region of discontinuity is in the form of one of a cut, slot, and perforations ~~or the like~~ which penetrate the label layer.

10. (Currently Amended) A pressure relief valve according to claim 9 wherein ~~characterised in that~~ the region of discontinuity is in the form of a single shaped cut ~~or slot~~.

11. (Currently Amended) A pressure relief valve according to claim 9 wherein ~~characterised in that~~ said region of

discontinuity is in the form of at least two converging cuts ~~or slots.~~

12. (Currently Amended) A pressure relief valve according to ~~claim 10 or claim 11 wherein a~~ characterised in that the region of ~~the~~ label layer located between the cuts forms a flap member movable separately ~~to from~~ the member label.

13. (Currently Amended) A pressure relief valve according to claim 12 ~~wherein characterised in that~~ said flap member is provided with one of a fold, scored ~~or~~ and creased region which serves to impart a "hinge-like" action assisting movement of the flap member.

14. (Currently Amended) A pressure relief valve according to claim 9 ~~11 wherein characterised in that~~ said cuts are interrupted by portions of label material which act to connect the flap member to said label.

15. (Currently Amended) A pressure relief valve according to ~~claim 1 any of the preceding claims~~ in combination with a sealant ~~means~~ arrangement for said container.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A method of facilitating the safe removal of steam from ~~wherein during the~~ packaging of a food product ~~or so-called "ready meal" contained~~ in a dish-format container, comprising the ~~step~~ steps of:

placing a sealant film over the container,

~~the step of~~ making a small aperture in the sealant film, and

~~the further step of~~ applying a product identification ~~wrapping or label~~ member having a flap formed therein over said sealant film such that the flap is located over the aperture and such that pressure created within the container when the ~~ready meal~~ food product is heated vents through the flap which acts as a valve.

18. (Currently Amended) A packaged product comprising ~~wherein~~ ~~said packaging comprises~~ a dish-like container to retain the product covered ~~or sealed~~ with a ~~suitable~~ sealant ~~means~~ arrangement of one of ~~such as~~ a sealant film, wrap ~~or~~ and lid, with ~~characterised in that~~ an aperture ~~is~~ formed in the sealant ~~means~~ arrangement and a ~~member label or product identification~~ band having one of a flap, vent ~~or~~ and valve ~~means~~ formed therein ~~is~~ applied to the sealant ~~means~~ arrangement such that the one of the flap, ~~or~~ vent and valve is located over the aperture formed in the sealant arrangement ~~means~~.

19. (Canceled)

20. (New) A pressure relief valve according to claim 8 in combination with a sealant arrangement for said container.